8022 b. 59 (9)

Plain Dealing:

IN A

DIALOGUE

BETWEEN

Mr. JOHNSON and Mr. WARY his Friend, a Stock-jobber, and a Petitioner againſt the *E--I--* Company, about Stock-jobbing, and the ſaid Company.

MR. *Wary*. Mr. *Johnſon*, your humble Servant.

Mr. *Johnſon*. My Friend Mr. *Wary*, I am glad to ſee you, what Buſineſs brings you to the *Exchange* this Evening? its rare to meet you here.

Mr. *W*. Truly ſo it is, I ſeldom gad abroad, but the fine Weather, and *Deſire* to hear how it goes with *Lymerick*, hath forced me out this Afternoon.

M. *J*. You find the Sweet of it, you know the Proverb, *Keep thy Shop and thy Shop will keep thee*.

Mr. *W*. You are pleaſed to be merry Sir, but what means that Croud?

Mr. *J*. They are *Stock-jobbers*.

Mr. *W*. Are they ſo, I have heard much talk of them, and are they the Men?

printed anno 1697.

Mr. *J.* Yes, and many of them now have their bellies full, and their purſes empty.

Mr. *W.* Why I thought there had been great Gain by it, a Neighbour of mine one Mr. *Hazzard*, if you know him, told me he had got ſeveral thouſands of Pounds in that way.

Mr. *J.* But had he the wit to keep 'em.

Mr. *W.* Truly to that I cannot anſwer, but by your Query I ſuſpect not, and the rather, obſerving for three Weeks or a Month paſt he hath been very *Dull* to what he was for ſome time before, I remember about three Months ago, asking him how Trade went, he *uppiſhly* reply'd, Hang *Trade*, all *Trade* is an Aſs to *Stock*, there's more to be got by *Stock* in a Week, or ſometimes in a Day then by other Buſineſs that ever he was acquainted with in a Year, did I think he'd ſtand pilling ſtraws or thrumming caps behind the Counter, no not he, for beſides *Eaſt India*, *Affrica*, and *Hudſon's Bay Stock*, there was now *Linen Stock*, and *Paper Stock*, *Copper Stock*, and *Venetian Mettal Stock*, *Glaſs Stock*, and *Wrack Stock*, *Mill Stock*, and *Dipping Stock*, and almoſt a hundred other *Stocks*, for which either *Patents* was granted or procuring, whereby a Man had room ſufficient to imploy his Money had he ne're ſo much, to great Advantage, and for his part he would ſell off his Goods and get in his Debts, and was reſolved to have a touch at them, but I perceive then that the Tide is turned.

Mr. *J.* Turn'd, Ay that it is with a witneſs, and if it be not the Caſe of your Neighbour *Hazzard* I am ſure moſt of the others had better followed the Buſineſs they had been bred to, then medled with matters they underſtood not, *All covet all loſe*, is a *Motto* moſt of them may aſſume, and how they will anſwer their folly to themſelves their Families and the Publick they have now time to conſider.

Mr. *W.*

Mr. *W.* I profeſs it was beyond my underſtanding, neither did I think it poſſible ſuch vaſt Eſtates could be got in ſo ſhort a time as I have heard.

Mr. *J.* Nay it may be as the matter hath been managed, and its very apparent here hath been ſome great *Eſtates* very lately got by Concern in *Stocks*, yet for the moſt part, what diſcerning and crafty men have poquetted, the inconſiderate upon a ballance of their Accompts will find wanting, and the *Broakers* for Buying and Selling and the *Book-keepers* for transfers have fleeced them all.

Mr. *W.* But pray Sir, how come the *Stocks* to advance thus? The *E. Indian*, *Affrican* and *Hudſons Bay* Companies, are equally affected by the War with private Traders, their preſent Exportations and Importations are attended with greater Riſques, higher Fraight, and new Duties, their *Stocks* pay Taxes, *&c.* One would think theſe Conſiderations ſhould rather lower them.

Mr. *J.* You are i'th right Sir, but Profit or Loſs made or ſuſtained by theſe Trades, or the Advantages and Difficulties that attend them, are not at preſent the Motives which govern their *Actions*, but they riſe and fall as the humours of the Buyers increaſe or abate, or from a neceſſity ſome are under of Buying or Selling to anſwer *Pollicies* and *Contracts* they are unwittingly drawn into by ſubtil and deſigning Men; and thus the *Linen-Stock* which may amount to upwards of *twenty thouſand Pounds*, while the *Drapers* are generally of Opinion there will be loſs by all that's made, was carried to three hundred thouſand, and hath ſince returned to ſixty or ſeventy thouſand, not to ſay any thing of the *Wrack Stock*, *Mill Stock*, or ſome other *Stocks*, of which a five hundred or a thouſand part was ſold upon the *Exchange* for fifty or ſixty Pounds, when never ought appeared or was propoſed to demonſtrate their meriting ſo many Pence.

Mr. *W.* But ſtill I cannot conceive how *Pollicies* or *Contracts* can be contrived as thus to influence the *Stocks* or the Value of their *Shares* and *Actions*.

Mr. *J.* I'le inform you, without doubt you have obſerved, if not experienced, that a great demand for a Commodity inhances the Price, and a glut at Market ſinks it.

Mr. *W.* Yes that I have.

Mr. *J.* Well then, ſuppoſe *Præmio*, (they are generally a certain number of *Guineas*) are given out by *A. B.* to *C. D.* and *E. F. &c.* to oblige them to deliver him ſuch a parcel or number of *Shares* of ſuch or ſuch a *Stock*, as exceeds the Quantity in their own or in the hands of others, that are willing to ſell, to compleat the Parcel they muſt give higher Prices, this little riſe incites others to Buy, who being under like Engagements are afraid of a greater: now *A. B.* by ſelling makes his Advantage, again ſuppoſe *A. B.* gives Premio's to *C. D. E. F. &c.* to oblige them to accept from him in a limited time ſuch a Parcel or Number of *Shares* of this or that *Stock*, in purſuance of this Contract, every thing that can be thought of to diſcredit the *Stock* is given out by him and his *Emiſſaries*. *C. D.* and E. F. in prudence ſell to make room for what they are to receive, others ſell out of fear, almoſt all offer *Guineas* for Security, in this hurry A. B. by buying makes his Advantage.

Mr. *W.* But is there any ſo ſimple as to take *Guineas* upon either of theſe Accompts, for I think I rightly apprehend it.

Mr. *J.* Too many, *Gold* is ſo bewitching.

Mr. *W.* But for ought I ſee by your ſuppoſitions, they are looſers by it.

Mr. *J.* They are ſo generally, and make good St. *Peters* Saying, *They that will be rich fall into divers temptations and a ſnare*, but yet theſe Intrigues are tollerable

rable to thoſe Cheats acted or attempted by ſome, who having whole *Stocks* or the whole Number of *Shares* of a *Stock* in their power, gave or would have given *Guineas* for the refuſals of certain Parcels thereof, when they knew the takers could not comply with ſuch *Contracts* but upon terms which they would afterwards pleaſe to permit them.

Mr. *W.* Certainly Sir, none that walk here have been guilty of ſuch *Villany*, it's worſe then *Padding*.

Mr. *J.* It's too true, and the great grief of many a by-ſtander to obſerve our *Royal Exchange*, the moſt renowned in the Univerſe for its Structure, and the daily Concourſe of Merchants there, in the exerciſe of their noble and laudable Profeſſions, become a *Theater* for ſuch vile Practices.

Mr. *W.* I am equally troubled to hear it; ſure theſe Men never conſulted *Jeremiah*'s Prophecy. *Chap.* 17. *Ver.* 10, 11. Where it's recorded, *I the Lord ſearch the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his way, and according to the fruit of his doings, as the Partridge ſitteth on eggs, and hatcheth them not: ſo he that getteth riches and not by right ſhall leave them in the midſt of his days, and at his end ſhall be a fool.* It's much the *Government* doth not take cognizance of theſe matters.

Mr. *J.* Without doubt it doth Sir, I am ſure ſeveral great Men at t'other end of the *Town* are very ſenſible of the miſchievous Conſequences, theſe Practices muſt have, and will endeavour a Remedy next Seſſion of *Parliament*. Peace, here comes a *Stock-jobber* and a *Petitioner* againſt the *Eaſt India* Company.

St. *J.* We interrupt you Gentlemen, are you not buſie you are ſo cloſe together?

Mr. *J.*

Mr. *J.* No really Sir, my Friend, Mr. *Wary*, and *I*, have been almoſt half an hour talking about *Stock Jobbing*.

St.-J. A pleaſant Subject: And what I pray, is your Opinion of it?

Mr. *J.* Truly, we are agreed, it is (as at preſent practiced) a *Publick Grievance*: and we was juſt come to conſider, what courſe a Parliament will take to remedy it.

St.-J. Hold, before we talk of a Remedy, why is it a Grievance?

Mr. *J.* Why's deceitful, diſorderly, and exceſſive Gaming a Grievance; but becauſe among many other inconveniences that attends it, it occaſions loſs of precious Time, and the ruine of Eſtates, ſo ſays the Act, *Car.* 2. *Cap.*---7. Now the *Royal Oak Lottery*, and *Groom-Porter's Table*, come far ſhort of this; the Wagering about Taking *Towns* begins to ſwell, but *Stock-Jobbing* exceeds by many degrees.

St.-J. I believe for Sum it out-does the *Oak*, *the Table*, and *the Wagers*, put them all together: but then I deny your conſequence, for Time's improved, and Eſtates are got by buying and ſelling Stock.

Mr. *J.* Aye, as they are in the other three Exerciſes; to day *A.* gains, and *B.* loſes; to morrow *B.* gains, and *A* loſes; and thus their Times and Eſtates are imploy'd, and neither are any other ways ſerviceable to the Publick, then as at preſent they maintain a parcel of *Brokers* and *Book-keepers*, whoſe Proviſion, Poundage, and Transfers in proceſs of time will conſume all: Or do you account Time improved, or an Eſtate got, when you ſee a cunning Man grown rich by the ruine, in part, or in whole, of half a dozen, that have as much Honeſty, but fewer Brains than himſelf. Searching Mines, Improving Land,

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Exerciſing Manufactures, Forreign and Domeſtick Traffick, are Noble Enterprizes, which denote a private Man publick ſpirited: by theſe the Poor are imploy'd, the Revenues increaſed, the Honour and Reputation of the Nation's inhanc'd, and his Succeſs affords equally ſatisfaction and applauſe: whereas, if one *Stock-jobber* get an Eſtate, another is undone, the Curſe of the Sufferer accompanies it, and himſelf is deſpiſed by all Lookers-on: here's no *Poor* imploy'd, nor *Cuſtoms* or *Exciſe* paid, nor no---

St.-J. Nay, hold, that's a miſtake; they muſt be very ignorant that know not, or have not heard of our Forreign *Trade*, the vaſt *Cuſtoms* our *Companies* pay, the *Manufactures* and *Poor* our other Stocks promote and imploy.

Mr. *J.* Tuſh, tuſh, I am not arguing againſt your *Companies*, nor their *Stocks*, but againſt *Stock-jobbing*; and I'll convince you, that this as now practiced, is of it ſelf ſufficient to deſtroy, at leaſt will greatly prejudice any *Company* or *Stock* it relates to: Suppoſe I, and ten or twenty Men get a Patent of *Incorporation* for the Sole Uſe or Management of any *Trade* or *Manufacture*, which we extraordinarily well underſtand, and was morally aſſured it would give us 10, 20, or 30 *per Cent* for our time, and Money imployed therein, this is a ſufficient encouragement for us to attend, and uſe our utmoſt endeavours to conſerve and improve it; or if we part with *ſome Shares* or *Proportion* to others, while the preſent or proſpected advance or improvement meaſures the Price, there is no harm; but if by any Trick or Intrigue the Price of *Actions* or *Shares* are exceſſively raiſed (in ſome Stocks they have been twenty for one, in ſome more) beyond their value, the conſequence is the obſtruction, if not ruine of that *Trade* or *Manufacture*, at leaſt of that

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Company and *Stock*: for what thinking Man will not ſell himſelf out of a *Stock*, which for ſeven or ten years to come, ſucceeding to his wiſh, will not produce him more for his Intereſt than to day's may have; and ſuppoſing all of that mind, the prime *Adventurers* and *Undertakers* that underſtand the Affair, are exchanged for others, who beſides their Ignorance, perceiving their Errour (that they muſt work for a dead Horſe) are diſcouraged from proceeding, and many of the *Stocks* that have ſo allarum'd the Kingdom, what ere's been pretended, were form'd by the Concern'd, but as Traps to inſnare the weak and inconſiderate.

St. J. I have patiently heard you, but how'll you prevent all this?

Mr. *J.* A *Parliament*'s Wiſdom will not want ways.

St. J. I thought ſo, it's eaſier to wound then to cure, if there's ſuch fools you talk of, themſelves are the ſufferers, ſure a Man may diſpoſe as he will of his own without Offence to any body, and for Buying and Selling *Stock* as I think it cannot, ſo it ought not to be prohibited or reſtrained.

Mr. *J.* You talk merrily Sir, we are not about an abſolute Prohibition, only a Remedy againſt the preſent Practice; and I have heard others of your mind, that it is impoſſible to be obtained, but I have a different Sentiments which anon I'le diſcover, only firſt let me tell you, a man cannot in all caſes do with his own what he pleaſes, is not Trade regulated by Law, a Man cannot export or import ſundry Commodities tho his own, a Man cannot melt down the current Coyn of the Kingdom tho his own, and what means our Statutes againſt Gaming (as before) Monopolies, *Jobbing*, *Foreſtalling*, *&c.* But to ſquare private Actions to the good of the Community, my Tongue's my own, yet if I ſwear I muſt pay a Shilling,

I can carry all my Effects into a Field and ſet Fire to them, but ſhould it become a Practice, aſſure your ſelf Care would be quickly taken to prevent it.

St. J. What would you have a Fine or a corporal Puniſhment inflicted upon the Tranſgreſſors, it muſt be one of them.

Mr. *J.* There's no neceſſity for that neither, ſuppoſe ſome ſuch Duty as Five Pounds *per cent.* or Share to the *King* was laid upon Transferrs in all *Stocks* incorporated by *Charter* that have a Publick Seal, in my Opinion that alone would cramp *Stock-jobbing.*

Petit. I profeſs I believe ſo too, if it was ſo ordered that it could not be evaded, how Mr. *Stock-jobber* looks upon it.

St. J. I'le vow that never entred my thoughts.

Petit. Nor mine.

Mr. *W.* Nor mine.

Mr. *J.* Nay it might be eaſily ſecured too, every Member's taking an Oath and entring into Bonds never to ſuffer anothers *Stock* in his Name, nor to Buy nor Sell *Stock* without its being actually transferred, and allowing upon Accompt the five *per cent.* or *Share.*

St.-J. It would infallibly do the Buſineſs, but it would cruſh ſeveral *Stocks* to nothing.

Petit. I am ſure it would quench the Thirſt after new *Patents.*

Mr. *J.* Gentlemen, it would only effect *Stock-jobbing*, the *Stock* themſelves would be benefited thereby, for the concerned in any that have or ſhall have a being, would then be obliged to proſecute what hitherto has only been pretended, and a noiſe made of. *Viz.* In imploying the Poor, and promoting Manufactures, or elſe it will appear they petition for Patents with no other Deſign, then having them to make Profit by ſelling them.

St.-J. But five *per cent.* will ſoon eat up the Profits and who then will be concerned in any publick *Stocks?*

Mr. *J.* Right, at the preſent rate of buying and ſelling, but Sir, a Patent or Charter would never be ſued for, unleſs the concern'd propoſed greater Advantage by ſuch a joynt *Trade* or *Manufacture*, then can be made of their Money and Time in ordinary and common ways, we'll ſuppoſe only ten *per cent. per annum* gain, it may be twenty and ſo to fifty, now a ſingle five *per cent.* when a man diſpoſes of his Intereſt is no great Duty, if a *Proprietor* immediately ſells, he cannot complain, he hath his humour, if he's an old Standard he'l have reapt the Advantage he may afford it; (and I think the intreſted in all *Patents* of this nature, ſhould be uncapable of ſelling till a certain time is elapſed, ſufficient for Proofs and Experiments of the Deſign, that People might know for what they part with their Money) but yet I do not ſay it muſt be juſt five *per cent.* or ſhare, it may be more or leſs as the nature of the thing requires, and probably it may be better impoſed upon the Buyer then Seller.

St.-J. Well let 'm do as they pleaſe, let's call another Cauſe.

Petit. Then pray you Gentlemen, what do you think of the *Eaſt India* Company?

Mr. *J.* Sir, it is very honourable in my eſteem, I wiſh I could ſay the ſame of ſome of its Members and their *Actions.*

St.-J An *Arch Rogue* t'other day ſaid of another *Company* that ſeperately they were worthy men, but together a Pack of Knaves, but I perceive Mr. *Johnſon* hath a good Opinion of this in the bulk, but hath different thoughts of ſome of the Managers.

Petit. And not without reaſon, for he among thouſands more is a Sufferer by their late unworthy Practices, in

in the diſpoſal of their Goods brought to *England*, and--

St.-J. What, I warrant, you are grieved at private *Contracts*, the *Company* may not diſpoſe of their Goods as they think meet?

Petit. Yes that I am and many other their baſe Proceedings, but I hope e're long their Wings will be clipt.

Mr. *J.* Look you Gentlemen, private *Contracts* ought not to be made by a *Company* for Goods imported, (except with the Crown) unleſs Interlopers at the ſame time are allowed, and that for two Reaſons, as firſt, you and I that are natural born Subjects are hereby excluded the *Eaſt India* Trade, we are not permitted to trade directly, neither ſhall we buy the Commodities of them that do; and ſecondly, allowing them this Practiſe, is granting them a Power to tax the Nation, when and to what degree they pleaſe, one hundred tun of *Pepper* or a hundred Bails of *Muſlins* arrive, which being (and there's always one thing or another) wanting, they take the Advantage of the Nation's Neceſſity, and priſe them accordingly, whereas were the Goods fairly expoſed at the Candle in reaſonable Lots, the Company would have a ſufficient Profit, we ſhould all that are Buyers partake of the Trade, and the Publick would be ſerved at eaſier Rates.

St.-J. And how if the *Company* loſes by a Publick Sale?

Mr. *J.* It muſt be their own Faults if it be by Commodities they can gain by a private one, if they have too much of a Commodity can't they expoſe a part and reſerve the overplus till a more proper Seaſon, if they want Money, can't they borrow upon as eaſie terms as others?

St.-J. Yes, as they did, the *Bettelles*, which for want of a Price they kept ſeveral years, and during the time paid Intereſt for Money.

Mr. *J.* And at the very nick, they might have had fifty *per cent.* Profit upon 'em, they were privately contracted out of their hands.

Petit. That's true Sir.

St.-J. But ſtill the *Company* are in the right, I think to make the moſt of their Goods, and you and your Friends may offer at a private *Contract* if you will as well as others.

Mr. *J.* And ſometimes an offer, and the higheſt hath ſignified nothing, but ſhall not a man trade himſelf, nor buy *Eaſt India* Commodities of the Importers, unleſs in conjunction with others, or that he can procure 30 or 40000 Pounds for a Purchaſe, where is Liberty and Property; I muſt conclude as I began, that theſe clandeſtine doings are not allowable, a *Monopoly* was never deſign'd by their *Charter*, and tho' it's almoſt abſolutely neceſſary there be a *Company*, their *Actions* ought to correſpond with the Laws, Cuſtoms and Uſages of the Realm, and the Benefit of the Publick.--*vid. Charters.*

St.-J. Only one word more: What Proviſion can poſſibly be made againſt Caballing and Combining to run down their Goods, if fairly expoſed?

Mr. *J.* I have heard this alledged in the *Company*'s favour; but it is impracticable: there is always at a *Court of Sales*, Friends to the *Company*, well underſtood in all Commodities, that have more Money than there is Pennyworths for them, and you may remember what All, All, in the Long-Cloth coſt the *Linnen-Drapers.*

St.-J. I am ſatisfied.

Pet. But pray Mr. *Johnſon*, what do you imagine the Parliament will do with the Company.

Mr. *J.*

Mr. *J.* I think if the Company's ſilent Sir, they'll let them alone; but if they Petition again, they may probably be eſtabliſhed.

Pet. Marry, I hope not; ſhould the War they made be winked at, the ſundry Complaints againſt them from *India*, and *St. Hellens*, and for *Monopolies*, and *private Contracts*, &c. be paſſed by, People would be much diſſatisfied.

Mr. *J.* Nay, that does not follow, Proviſion in an Act of Settlement may be made, in theſe, and all other Points, to the ſatisfaction of the concern'd.

Pet. But a calling thoſe to Account, whoſe ill management hath been the cauſe of all, is a neceſſary Antecedent.

Mr. *J.* Every body knows, ſome body has been faulty, and many of their late irregular Actions are not eaſily anſwer'd; but to find who are the Men, and how far they are culpable, requires a great deal of time; if that can't be ſpared, would you have the Nation, and the *Company* ſuffer for the Miſcarriages of a few private Men. It's moſt neceſſary ſome care be taken to ſecure this Trade; and how you'll do it better, than by eſtabliſhing this *Company*, is beyond my underſtanding.

St.-J. I yet ſay, the guilty ought not to go unpuniſhed, and don't fear the loſs of the Trade; let it be declared open, and the preſent *Company's Charter* null, and in a week's time there'll be Subſcriptions enough for a New Company.

Mr. *J.* You're but a word and a blow, I perceive; I am not excuſing the guilty, while I argue for the *Company*; I have been informed by thoſe that lived in *India* before this Company's time, that in that Trade there was loſs both out and home, ſo ſubtle was the Natives in lowering our Commodities upon the arrival of our Ships, and in-

inhancing their own during our ſtay ; whereas the Company having ſetled Colonies and Factories, Ships conſtantly going and returning, their Agents and Servants that contract with the *Artificers* themſelves, collecting their Manufactures in ſmall parcels, the Trade is brought to the perfection we now behold it: Would you have their Foundation for others to build upon? Certainly as they have merited highly of the Nation, they'll have the preferrence.

St.-J. But eſtabliſh them excluſive to others, and you'll deſtroy what you boaſt of ; for their Dividends have been ſo large, that (if any) ſuch a Stock is not remaining, as the Trade requires.

Mr. *J.* Then the Act that ſettles them, may oblige them to compleat it.

St.-J. No, rather to open their Books, and let others ſubſcribe for it.

Mr. *J.* Aye, that's pretty, How much would you have ſubſcribed?

St.-J. 460218 to make their 739782 1200000 *l.*

Mr. *J.* So ; And what if Two Millions be ſubſcribed?

Pet. Then lower every Man's Parcel according to his Subſcription.

Mr. *J.* An excellent Propoſal ; if Sir *H. E.* ſubſcribe 50000, and you 100 *l.* he will go into the Stock with 12500 *l.* and you with 25 *l.* Look ye Sir, if nothing will ſerve, but the Books muſt be opened, were I to order it, the 460218 *l.* ſhould be expos'd in Lots, all Perſons, as well Members as others, free to bid ; the Money ſhould be paid to the Company, and the Buyers have Credit for the Sum.

Pet. As I live, you deſerve the Thanks of a General Court for this Notion.

Mr.

Mr. *J.* I am ſerious Sir: but I have ſeen another Model for an *Eaſt-India* Company, which were it enacted, I believe, would give general ſatisfaction, the Company, their Friends, and their Enemies muſt all allow of it.

Pet. Would I had a ſight of it.

Mr. *J.* Here it is, I'll read it; the Title is only, *An Expedient*, &c.

THAT the Preſent *Eaſt-India* Company be eſtabliſhed.

That their Stock of 739782 *l.* be made a Million, (or more) as the *Parliament* thinks meet.

That the 460218 *l.* ſhall be advanced by the *preſent Members* proportionable to their *Stocks*, and Refuſers obliged to ſell.

That no Member ſhall at any time during the *Company* have above 10000 *l.* Stock, and thoſe that at preſent have more, be obliged to ſell it.

That every Thouſand Pounds Credit (whether of one or more Perſons) ſhall have a Vote, and he that hath Ten thouſand to have no more.

That every Member take an Oath, and ſeal a Bond, not to ſuffer another's *Stock* in his Name, or to have any in the Name of another; and that he will not ſell, without actually transferring the ſame.

That for every Hundred Pound bought after the Stock is ſo ſetled, Five pounds ſhall be paid to the *King* by the Buyer.

That no Money be taken at Intereſt, but if more is required, in like manner to be advanced by the Members.

That there be no private Contracts (unleſs with the *King*) for any Goods imported, but that they be fairly ſold in reaſonable Lots, in open Court, the higheſt Bidder to be the Buyer.

That

That *Commissioners* be appointed to hear and determine past Matters between the *Company*, and others that pretend to be injured, if they make their *Appeals* in a certain time. It matters not whether the *Commissioners* are Members or not, if Men of Ability, Integrity, and Honour.

Pet. Amen. I say this.

Mr. *J.* Then you like these Proposals.

Pet. Yes; and no body that's sincere in their Clamors can dislike them.

Mr. *J.* I think here's Care taken to remedy all Evils, and supply all Defects. *Gentlemen*, a good Night to you.

FINIS.

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